ANNOUNCEMENT RE. GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE REMAINING PART OF THE CURRENT SESSION

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the remaining part of the current Session will consist of:

(1) Consideration and return of the Finance (Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(2) Consideration of a motion for reference of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1987, to a Joint Committee of both Houses.

(3) Consideration and passing of the Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Bill, 1987.

(4) Consideration and return of the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by Lok Sabha.

(5) Consideration and passing of the following Bills as passed by Lok Sabha:

(a) The Chandigarh (Delegation of Powers) Bill, 1987.

(b) The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Bill, 1987.

(6) Discusion under Rule 176 on the Report of the Justice Thakkar-Natarajan Commission of Inquiry regarding Fairfax Group Inc together with Memorandum of the action taken thereon so far at 4 P.M. on Monday, 14th December, 1987.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank the Government for referring the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1987, to a Joint Committee of both Houses.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

DISCRIMINATION IN GIVING INTERIM AWARD TO WORKERS OF PUBLIC SECTOR JUTE, ENGINEERING AND TEXTILE UNDERTAKINGS IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): After the illuminating speech of Mr. Janardhan Poojari, I rise to draw the attention of the House to an act of utter discrimination affecting lakhs of workers belonging to the public sector undertakings of West Bengal working in jute, engineering and textiles. They are being forced to go on strike from 14th of this month. They are being forced to go on strike because the Government has denied to them the benefit of interim award which they have given to the officers of the same units. This is an unparalleled case of discrimination. The strike was scheduled to have taken place from 14th of last month, but there was an appeal by the Labour Minister and he had promised to call a meeting after his return from the ILO meeting. But he has come back and no meeting has been called for. The workers are but forced to go on strike from Monday next. Sir, workers are hurt because of the utter discrimination; workers are hurt because the Minister has refused to carry out his pledge. Now, the whole problem is, the Government have announced interim award for the workers on the point of strike given unitedly by all the trade unions. After that a committee was set up and the committee consisted of members of the Cabinet. They had recommended award of interim relief to all categories of public workers belonging to public sector. Unfortunately, the Bureau of Public Enterprises have issued a circular debarring the workers working in jute industry of public sector in West Bengal, debarring the workers of public sector in West Bengal belonging to engineering, debarring the workers of West Bengal belonging to textiles.

Sir, the situation is extremely grave. It is extremely grave because the Government made a promise but it has no power to carry out the promise. On the other hand, the Minister makes a promise to